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Fort Wayne. Schools and Colleges.

FORT WAYNE

Lakeside Normal School

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BOOK OF THE WORDS

Bk + Pld

A Celebration of the One Hundred and Twentieth Anniversary of Fort Wayne.

1794---1914

PAMPHLETS

GIVEN AT LAKESIDE PARK,
OCTOBER 22, 1914

Written by the Students of the Normal Schools

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Dramatic Celebration of the One Hundred and Twentieth Anniversary of the Founding of Fort Wayne.

PRELUDE

On the stage opposite the Indian wigwams is a throne. Enter History, gowned in a sparkling white robe and led by attendants, the Spirits of the Past.

Attendants dance before History after which they group themselves gracefully about her throne.

History rises and speaks:

"Spirits, how wonderful it is to reflect that it is almost three hundred years since the white man first set foot upon this ground. Here on the banks of the three rivers, surrounded by beautiful waving cornfields, grassy meadows, and ancient forests, the red man lived for many centuries.

Here he hunted the buffalo and speared the fish when he was not going forth to secure the trophies of war. The site of this city was ever to the Indian 'the glorious gate, through which all of the good words of their chiefs had to pass, from the north to the south and from the east to the west.'

To freshen these scenes in our minds, help me, oh Spirits, to re-live the past. *(Spirits rise and look at History.)* Spirits! Go into the realms of the past and bring back to me the events as they happened here on this place three hundred years ago!"

(Spirits dance around throne and then off the stage. As they return they lead Indian inhabitants of the village. History resumes her throne.)

FIRST EPISODE (Time, about 1614)

INDIAN AND FRFNCH LIFE AT THE JUNCTION OF THE THREE RIVERS

SCENE ONE—*French Fur Traders.*

(An Indian village with Indians carrying on daily occupations. Enter French traders. First trader picks up some drying furs, holds them up to admiration. An Indian grabs them away.)

Second trader. Offer money for them.

(First trader offers money which is refused by the Indians.)

Second trader. Try the beads. *(Braves refuse but squaws are interested.)* Get out the red cloth and offer it. *(Trading begins and traders go away well pleased.)*

SCENE TWO—*Champlain makes a map.*

Indians are aware that white man is coming up the river in a canoe.

Interpreter. Am I speaking to the brave chief of the Great Miamis? White man wishes to know.

Chief. I am the chief. Who is my brother?

Interpreter. Champlain, sent by the great French father across the waters to see the lands and make a map of the hunting grounds where the red men live. He has traveled for many moons to reach this place.

Chief (after glancing around the circle). Miami chief help French brother. Smoke pipe of peace. *(After smoking Champlain shows his map.)*

Interpreter (pointing to Maumee). What is river yonder that leads to great and shining lakes in land of great bears?

Chief. Omee.

Interpreter (pointing to the St. Joseph). This clear stream which flows past the camp, what is it called?

Chief. The Giver of Light made a river for the red men thus to the setting sun. It is called St. Joseph.

Champlain (startled). St. Joseph. *(Crosses himself, unrolls his scroll and marks the place.)*

Interpreter. What is yonder stream which carries us to the Great Father of Waters?

Chief. St. Mary's.

Champlain (in amazement). St. Mary's. *(He questions the interpreter.)*

Interpreter. Pale face Father come before? Pale face name rivers?

(Indians nod assent. One goes to his wigwam and returns holding up cross that had been given him long before by a missionary priest. Champlain takes the cross and holding it before him prays. He then unrolls his map and locates the rivers.)

Interpreter. Map.

Indians. Map.

Interpreter (after conference with Champlain). Pale face go to the Omee. See waters join.

Chief. Rain-in-face and Smiling Sun go, see Omee.

FIRST INTERLUDE

History descends from her throne and advances to the foreground led by her dancing attendants.

History (as she unrolls more of her scroll). In 1686 the French passed through this section. Here they made friends with the Indians and built a fort on yonder banks of the St. Joseph. The Indians and French lived together as brothers for many winters until the British came and captured the fort.

Go ye forth now, Spirits of the Past, and reveal the life of the British when they had supplanted the French.

SECOND EPISODE (Time 1760-1763)

UNDER THE ENGLISH FLAG

SCENE ONE—*Wells as a boy captive.*

(Three Indians enter dragging the struggling white lad.)

First Indian. Ugh! Little white boy heap good fighter!

Second Indian. Take big men to hold him. Need more braves.

Third Indian. Very good fighter! Make good worker.

First Indian (to Wells). Help squaws fetch and carry.

First squaw (giving Wells a bucket). Go, get water.

Second squaw (pointing toward the fire). Go, make fire.

Third squaw. Pale face grind corn.

(The boy refuses to obey these commands.)

Squaw. Pale face no work. Tell chief.

Braves (lead boy to the chief.) Pale face no work.

Chief. Pale face brave. Make good Indian. Stay with us and grow big.

SCENE TWO—*Indians during conspiracy of Pontiac massacre .British under Ensign Holmes. (A friendly Indian brings Holmes the bloody war belt used to call Indians to war.)*

Holmes. You come with the red war belt. What is the news it carries?

Friendly Indian. Speech on bloody belt tells red men scalp palefaces. All must die.

(Holmes and soldiers examine the belt.)

Holmes. I do not think we need fear the Indians. They are our friends. We have lived among them and they know us to be their friends.

Indian. Careful. War belt says Miamis must go on the war path with the great Ottawa chief, Pontiac, and kill all English. Only the children of our great father, the King of France, may live.

Holmes. Is this the truth?

Indian. I—friend to English,—warn him. It is true—all true.

(An Indian girl rushes in, weeping and wringing her hands.)

Indian girl (to Holmes). Mother dying. Medicine man no good. Squaw much sick. You help. Come. She die. Come! Come!

Officer. Heed the warning just given you by the Indian.

Holmes. I do not think I need fear the Indians.

Indian girl. Squaw much sick, she die, she die.

Holmes. I'll come. *(Turning to officer)* Deliver this belt to Detroit immediately. The commander must know of this. *(To the Indian girl)* Lead the way. I will follow you.

(As Holmes enters a distant wigwam terrible cries are heard and the officers rush for their weapons. The Indians run in and celebrate the British massacre.)

SECOND INTERLUDE

History advances led by dancing Spirits of the Past. She unrolls more of her scroll from which she reads.

History. By the year 1790 Indian lands were being over-run by colonists. The Indians resented this and harrassed the settlers. Although many were killed the white men still held possession of a large part of the country. Wells, the adopted son of the Miamis, who had fought by the side of Little Turtle against both Harmar and St. Clair

began to feel a new awakening in his mind and broke his attachment to the tribe.

The government of the United States made strenuous efforts to establish treaties of peace among the tribes hostile to Americans, but the bloody attacks still continued. Finally there came one whom the Indians called the "Black Snake" because he was ever alert. It was he whom Little Turtle could not conquer. Therefore, rejoice, oh ye Spirits, in the coming of the white man's protector, General Anthony Wayne. Scatter ye now and bring on the scenes of his victory.

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THIRD EPISODE (Time, 1794)

THE GROWING POWER OF THE UNITED STATES

SCENE ONE—*Parting of Wells and Little Turtle.*

Little Turtle. The black cloud hangs low over our heads. I am afraid of what it holds for the future.

Wells. You, the great Little Turtle, the only chief who has beaten a commander-in-chief of the American army—you speak of fear?

Little Turtle. I call that no great victory.

Wells. But do you not remember, Little Turtle, how we surprised General Harmar and how fierce the fighting was down at the ford? The bodies were piled up thick and the water ran blood for hours!

Little Turtle. It was not Harmar's fault that he was defeated. It was due to the cowardly conduct of his men.

Wells. You may or may not take the credit of that, but the victory over St. Clair was due to you alone. It was your careful maneuvering that outwitted St. Clair. You so managed that for days he saw no Indians and at last thought they had all fled. He grew bold and then you pounced upon him as a hawk upon a sparrow.

Little Turtle. This time it was the general's own fault that he was defeated. He did not heed the warning of Washington to be ready for surprises.

Wells. But you, my father, who have never been beaten, you need not speak of fear.

Little Turtle. Yet we cannot expect the same good fortune to attend us always. The Americans are now led by a chief who never sleeps. The nights and days are alike to him. We have never been able to surprise him. There

is something whispers me, it would be prudent to listen t his offers of peace. Still, would it not be wonderful t conquer all the pale faces with their many armies?

Wells. *My* people defeated? Is that wonderful?

Little Turtle. Are you not of *our* people? Why sa you *my* people?

Wells. At first I thought I could be of your peopl but now all seems changed. No longer can I fight agains my white brothers. It would be well if I should joi Wayne's forces and try to bring about peace.

Little Turtle. No, no. I like it not.

Wells.. Father, when the sun reaches the noon mark, shall leave you and go to my people. We have always bee friends and always will be friends. Upon the field of batt we may meet again. Let the result be what it may. Th purity of the motives prompting us, and our common lov for the wronged Indians must be our warrant. We ma well trust the Great Spirit for results that will vindica our action this day.

(Wells and Little Turtle clasp hands and then tur and walk slowly in opposite direction.)

SCENE TWO—*Coming of Gen. Wayne, the victor of Falle Timbers.*

(Enter Gen. Wayne with officers, soldiers and India captives.)

Gen. Wayne. At last we are here to carry out our lon desired project!

Col. Hamtranck. It is now six years since Presider Washington brought to the attention of Congress the fa that "the Miami village pointed to very important post f the Union." Others have attempted to capture this villag but have failed. If it had not been for your quick actio we could never have won the Battle of Fallen Timbers.

Gen. Wayne (to soldiers). Now we must obey the o ders of President Washington and build a fort here at th meeting place of the Shawnees, Miamis and Delaware Over yonder south of the St. Mary's is a site suitable f the fort. Come, I wish to see this village.

SCENE THREE—*Building and naming of the Fort.*

(Indian village—with men, women and children goin about their regular work or play. A shot is heard.)

First squaw. Ah, they are naming the fort.

Chief. Hush, let us count the shots. (Another shot heard.)

All (in chorus). Two!

(So they cry in chorus until the firing of the cannon tops.)

First squaw. There were fifteen shots. Why so?

Second squaw. Perhaps in honor of the Great Spirit.

Chief. Ah, no. Those are for the fifteen fires of the nited States. The sunshine of peace will once more warm nd gladden us.

First squaw. See, they come!

(As white men advance, Indians retire and stand in emi-circle in the back-ground.)

Gen. Posey. At last, my good people, we have peace. ll obstructions are cleared away and we may freely visit ach other as our fathers used to do. General Washington as long desired that a fort be established here at the gate-ay to the west. He sent Gen. Harmer here to do this u the failed. Gen. St. Clair also failed. But Anthony Vayne, the hero of Stony Point, has come out victorious. nd now I propose that we name this fort which we dedi-ate today in honor of him who has gained it for us—I ame it Fort Wayne!

(General Wayne bows, then turns to Little Turtle. They asp hands and remain in this position during processional arching and countermarching of Indians and white men, at ose of which all unite in singing America. Audience is sked to join in the singing.)

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